Oscar P. Dillmans.
Ornithologist and Oologist.

Bird - Notes.

Food, song, nesting etc. of our birds.

Taken at the following places:-

Santa Cruz Co. —
Watsonville -
Loma Prieta -
Corallitos -

Monterey Co.
Castroville -
Gorda -
Jolon -
Kings City -
Pacific Grove -
Chualar
Salinas.

No. 262.

Pajaro Valley- Lower End.

Watsonville- Santa Cruz Co.

March- 4- 1894.

Found a California Thrashers nest; also a California Cuckoos nest placed 10 feet up in a willowing sapling and contained 5 or 6 eggs. Evidently this last was a last years nest for the eggs were much faded and spoiled.

March- 23- 1894.

Visited L. W. Brokaw of Salinas and saw his eggs. Learned from Elmer Brokaw, his brother that the proper time to look for Ducks eggs was the 1st and 2nd weeks of April and about the same time for Rail Wrens and Rails.

April- 7- 1894.

Took Am. Barn Owl 1/5 from hole in bank. Size of hole.
2½ feet deep.
6 in across at mouth.
9 " " " end.
7 ft. above river water of Pajaro river.

October-11-1894.
Saw Great Blue Heron sitting on a fence.
Pajaro Valley-upper end.

March-27-1895. (Catskill place.)
Alfred Gilman and I observed a Red-tail poise in the air without the least effort apparently except after it had stayed still for at least two minutes its wings began to flap gently it would then move on and repeat the performance

April-25-1895.
Took a set of five eggs of some unknown Warbler. The nest was placed against the trunk of an oblique Willow tree and supported by some shoots on the outside. The nest was in a rather open wooded place in the wooded river bottom. The nest was

quite similar to the nest of the Pileolated Warbler and was not far from a place where I had obtained a set of five but a short time before. The bird was of a dark green except the tips of the wings and tail which were brown. Perhaps a faintest streak of yellow was to be seen along the sides of the bird. The bird was a close sitter and when flushed immediately dropped to the ground and ran about with its tail and wings spread in a most violent and revengful manner. The eggs are considerably longer than those of the Pileolated and the markings are more in the form of a distinct wreath and were less scattered than in the above mentioned species. In fact the eggs put one strongly in mind of the darker colored

Cliff Swallow's eggs.
When scared from the nest the old bird dropped to the ground and fluttered along, feining a broken wing evidently with the purpose of detracting my attention from the nest. The mate soon appeared upon the scene and flew off some distance and alighted on a tree. The nest was about twelve feet up from the ground.

August-10-1895.

Saw an Arkansas Kingbird attack a Dessert Sparrow Hawk that was carrying off the mate of the Kingbird in its talons.

I have observed the flight of the Turkey Vulture closely and have come to the conclusion that they flap their wings in flying more than one would suspect.

This is especially true when they are flying close to the ground or in among the trees or in a place where they have to steer carefully but to my notion they do so more especially when there is no breeze to buoy them up.

I have watched these birds when attacked by Brewer's Black birds and have discovered that they are more agile in flight than the Red tail or other larger hawks in their efforts to get rid of their tormentors by dodging.

I noticed that the ♀ Parkman's Wren stayed and cared for her brood a long time after they left their nest. This nest was in an old Cliff Swallows nest in the barn which had been used only a short time before by a pair of House Finch as a nesting place

and soon the young Finches left the Wren, took possession. Another nest from which a nest full of young Wrens had been hatched was in an old coal-oil can on the top of a picket near a much traveled road. The bird entered through a small hole in the top of the can.

August-19-1895.

While on a visit to A. W. Jarvis of Green Valley I saw several local collections of eggs which contained besides those I have found to be pleantiful, specimens of the following:- A large nournber of Western Wood Pewee, Ash-throated Flycatcher and quite a nournber of ~~Ash-throated~~ Olive-sided Flycatchers. Besides these the common Flycatchers, the Vireos (Hutton's and Warbling), the Warblers (Pileolated, Yellow and Lutescent). I was

shown the prettiest set of Quail Eggs I have seen. They were marked so heavily with black veining (not specks) that the ground color was almost obscured. This set was owned by a young gentleman who gathered an egg of the Golden Eagle, filled into two parts but otherwise not remarkable.

Also read today of the shooting of a wild turkey in 1882 by Edward Arnott but no record Washington, D.C.

September-12-1905.

In the p.m. part of the afternoon a large flock of blackbirds alighted in the sugar-beet patch. Every now and then one of them would fly up after some irritating insect which it had aroused from its retreat. These insects were fluffy grizzly moths and small butterflies and

an occasional grasshopper or other insect. The birds were not always successful in their captures for I think that in nearly one-half of the instances observed the results clouded the pursuit of the birds. Many times in my direction, the birds would not darken them. Once I surprised a Red-winged Blackbird and Song Sparrow, both mated, eating on ahead of the rest and in this way the mated pairs could, the more generally than not, pick up other insects ahead of the rest.

A Red-winged Blackbird, a Meadowlark, a Song Sparrow, a Horned Lark, and a Western Meadowlark were not much brought up together.

Also saw three Blackbirds not mated a short distance

[illegible] great [illegible] and to the great discord in [illegible] The [illegible] and to mate who kept itself at a safe distance.

[illegible] heard a [illegible] making quite a musical note. These birds are quite imitative but perhaps it is to decoy smaller birds and seize them as prey. I have seen them many times in the [illegible] where a Blackbird was sitting and the Blackbird would always retreat. In the same way I have seen the Bobolink and Black Phebe make way for the Blackbird. It seems that might is right [illegible] at least.

I discovered two Red-shafted Flickers in the corn-crib and had an opportunity to witness a fight between them with their bills in which the birds pecked each other with their bills and they would hold on just as long as they can.

Audubon's Warblers alight on the ground in search of food. They appear to hunt insects in all places that they can be found. Also saw a Black Phoebe on the ground.

Saw a Brewer's Blackbird win victory over a Desert Sparrow [illegible].

Watsonville-Santa Cruz Co.

Notes on Observations of Birds
Arrivals to 1894
(Upper End of Pajaro Valley.)

Found a nest of the Spurred Towhee on the ground in the river bed under some willow trees. The nest contained three eggs of the Towhee and two of the Valley Partridge.

Found a nest of the Bald Eagle and afterwards took a set of three eggs. After a week or so I was passing by a Valley Quail flew from the nest and upon investigation it was found to contain five eggs of the Partridge.

Two nests of Mourning Dove were found on the ground; nests in trees were very abundant.

One nest of the Western Yellow-throat was found in a low

and near the center of rest. Rest was secured merely by accident. It was considered principally in fact almost entirely as the outside sheathing of the boat and lined with finer parts of same or of some grade. Rest was placed first one end then the other, set up and was firmly woven about several of the upper stakes. Fire was not seen.

Watsonville - Cal.

Notes taken near lower end of Pajaro Valley. Sept. 8 yr.

During the first part of June I found a nest of the California Cuckoo. It was a frail structure of coarse willow twigs and was quite thin. In general appearance resembling the nests of the California Thrasher but was not as substantial. It was on a willow tree about twelve feet from the ground. Birds quite tame.

In the first part of May if I remember the time rightly I found a nest of the Lutescent Warbler situated on the ground under some trailing vines of the wild blackberry. The situation was damp and shady. I had seen the bird fly from the nesting place about a week before but was unable to discover the nest; it being well concealed

The bird was a close sitter but shy after leaving the nest. The edge of the nest was even with the top of the ground and my impression is that it was composed mostly of leaves lined with coarse grass. Incubation was so far advanced that I could not save the set.

During the month of June 1892 I found a set of three inch containing seven eggs all of which were at the same stage of advancement of incubation. I did not preserve the set. Mr. L. O. Brokaw of Salinas reports a similar set.

Sizes of Eggs of California Cuckoo.
A.O.U. No. 384a. Riverbank 387 pl.
Coues - 429 - pl.
(Coccyzus americanus occidentalis)
Eggs sent to Chas. E. Doe.
Shape of eggs - elliptoidal - Light
green - fresh in color.
No - 1. Set - 2/3.
1.31 x 1.04 In. 33. x 26. M.M.
No - 2. Set 2/3.
1.34 x 1.05 In. 34.5 x 27. M.M.
No - 3. Set - 1/3.
1.25 x .95 In. 32. x 24. M.M.
No - 4. Set - 1/3.
1.35 x 1.01 In. 34.5 x 26. M.M.

No 5. Set - 2/5.
1.28 x 1.03 In. 32.5 x 26. M.M.
No - 6. Set. 2/5.
1.35 x 1.2 In. 34.5 x 26. M.M.
No - 7. Set - 2/5
1.29 x .97 In. 33 x 25 M.M.
No - 8.
1.32 x 1.02 In. 34 x 25.75 M.M.

No- 9. Set-2/5.
1.34 x 1.04 Inches. 34.5 x 27. M.M.
No- 10. Set- XXX
1.34 x 1.03 Inches. 34. x 26.+ M.M.
No- 11. Set XXXXX.
1.06 x 1.01 Inches. 35. x 25.25 M.M.

Watsonville, Santa Cruz Co. - Cal.

(Pajaro Valley - rufs per end.)

No more notes were taken during my residence at Watsonville - the notes that follow were from observations during my residence at Castroville, Monterey Co., near the old mouth of the Salinas river, and elsewhere

Castroville, Cal.

Feb. 3 - 1896. Noticed the metallic sheen of purplish around the neck of the male Brewer's Blackbird. Also several days ago I noticed the rich colored neck of the Am. Coot in contrast to its more dusky body. I have also noticed the white feathers in the short tail of this bird.

I have not seen the California Towhee in this vicinity since I have been down here. My friend Mr. Louis W. Brokaw of Salinas informed me that this

bird is entirely absent in this section

Feb. 29. 96. I saw a dozen or so old nests in a barn that were either Black Phoebe's or Barn Swallows. Some were occupied by the House Finch with the intention of nesting this week.

At the peak of the ~~roof~~ two baling ropes were tied one from each rafter and each a loop so in length, thus forming a kind of a swing. At the junction of these two ropes and on the knot which tied them together was placed a nest of the Swallow or Phoebe, I could not tell which - probably the former. This nest was occupied by a House Finch I think.

The Western Savanna Sparrow is occasionally seen in the vicinity of the barn in search of food and I think one bird which I have seen comes regularly every evening for his food. I have heard them

song of late several times and it is very sweet but weak. It consists of a series of four or five notes of about the same pitch or perhaps a little ascending then a single high note followed by a low one. This is reapeated over and over.

This is their only song so far as I can learn. The only other note that I am acquainted with is the little chipp which is usually uttered as a surprise note I think.

The Wm. Savanna Sparrow has been seen to perch upon a straw-stack, a fence and other elevated places. The Lark has been seen to perch also. These birds are frequently seen in each others company.

April-11-1896. Saw a large flock of Cal. Gulls today following the plow and I paid considerable attention to them. I noticed for the first time (I have not been close to them

for several days) that they had lost the dusky markings on the back of their neck, that portion being pure white now. This indicates the assumption of the new spring dress. Young birds were seen assuming adult plumage. They were growing white on tail, underparts, head and rump and wore a dirty blue mantle, this part not being as bright as in adult birds. The tail was pure white except for a subterminal bar of black. 13 birds were seen ranging from plain dusky young to birds like the above described.

Titlarks seem more tawny and streaked with more dark longitudinal dark markings on sides and underparts. The white eye ring and superciliary stripe may be seen some distance. They are quite tame and are now very neat. A flock of Gulls were sitting on the ground not far from me when two of them thrust back their

heads opened their mouths widely and sent forth a ringing laughing cry such as is quite common among them but which I never had witnessed before. They are very noisy, quarrelsome birds and this note (it may be a call note) is the most harsh and shrill of any of their notes.

July-8-1890. Found a Wn. Savanna Sparrow's nest this morning under a sugar beet in the field. It was only a short distance from a straw stack. The bird was on the nest and did not flush until I had nearly placed my hat upon the nest. She ran along the ground with her wings and tail spread and was evidently trying to delude me.

July-9-890. Today I was amazed by the ferocity displayed by the Least Terns at their colony on the sand-bar near mouth of the Salinas. When I approached their nesting spot—it was too late for eggs—the

1894 would swoop down on me, nearly touching my hat and once or twice I thought they did do so. They were continually uttering their cries. One or two of these are surprisingly like a note of the Brewer's Blackbird. They also have a cry that is more shrill that is unlike anything that the blackbird utters.

July-27. A 7 ♀. Semipalmated Sandpiper shot today. These are the first I have identified as belonging to this species. I have heretofore called ~~them~~ all the small birds Sandpiper but those shot today have the distinguishing characteristics of the first mentioned species. They were feeding on a sandy bank of river near its mouth. One specimen shows a very long bill- about 1.10 while most specimens measure about .90. This variation is common and ranges from .80 to 1.25. Other parts do not vary in the same way as the tarsus of the large bird and only of average size. The body of the long-billed specimen is however larger

1899.
Aug. 22. than the average.

The other day while on the beach I saw an immense number of large sea birds flying southward in one long column. The column was quite dense and I watched it for a hour. During all this while thousands of birds were pouring past me following the coast line and when I came away it was still in progress. The birds were about half a mile out from shore, while a few straggelers, seemingly rear of the number ~~which~~ reached the shore. Those seen at close range were Gulls.

Not long ago I saw a pair of Cal. Towhees near a clump of willows growing on the bank of the old Salinas river. This entirely disproves Louis Brokaw's statement that they never occurred here.

No notes were taken from about this time until nearly a year afterwards. O. P. Allen

Rockland - Monterey Co., Cal.

1897. Near Gorda P.O. - (Palo Colorado Canada)

Aug-16. Am. Water Ouzels are frequently seen, also Russet-backed Thrushes. A large, dark-colored Hawk was seen near Gorda upon a large rock near the sea. It might have belonged to the "Falcon group."

Aug-31. Some time ago Mr. Plaskett of Gorda told me that the Band-tailed Pigeons are found here the year through and that they breed.

One night I became acquainted with the Am. Dipper at close range. One was on a rock in the creek just back of our house and it allowed me to approach quite closely to it. It kept on with its singing. This consisted of two strains one seemingly an alarm note and the other a song. This latter was not unlike that of a canary bird but was more subdued.

Oct-11-1899. I have found out where an Eagle and a Hawks nest are; also that the Condor may nest in canon near big peak back of here as they are generally to be seen there.

While out at the teachers institute I saw a great nounber of small birds at Pacific Grove that I took to be Phoebes. Some attention paid to sea birds but no species were distinguished

Oct- I was very much interested in a little 3 Emmas summer. It was sitting upon a limb and allowed me to approach within about — feet and I back out a little so as to see its brilliant plumage in different lights. I don't believe I fully realized until then the full beauty of our little neighbor! The color changing from scarlet to a beautiful golden. The top of the head also would change. Soon it flew away and I went on a little ways and was much surprised

to see my little friend within hands reach sucking the insects or honey as the case might be from the blossoms (I a gooseberry bush) about 2 ft from me, apparently not at all disconcerted. I also noticed that upon leaving a blossom while it dropped down a few inches it also went back (not) could not distinguish whether the wings were used in this process or not. In coming up to a blossom it came up from underneath.

Noticed the alternate opening and closing of the wings of a California Jay today. Its flight is somewhat different from that of the Steller's Jay.

Last evening I saw a very large flock of Western Meadow Lark for this part of the country. The whirr of their wings when flying could be heard some distance.

I learned today that a large number of Turkey Buzzards roosted in the redwood trees near Mr. Herman's house.

Oct. 2. A great many birds were seen to-
night on the road home from school.
I have noticed on other rainy days
besides today that the birds seem more
than usually abundant. The only
reason that I can give is that the
hunt for their evening meal cate-
gor on dark, rainy days than on
bright days and accordingly gather
in the open places and the trail
to eat. The birds also seem to be
less shy on rainy days.

Nov. 6. Sometime previous to this date I saw
my first California condor but
the notes I made at that time
were destroyed by accident. As
I remember it, I was coming home
from school one evening and was
near the Davis place when I saw
circling about several Turkey Vultures
and in their company a larger
bird at once distinguishable as
the Condor. It soon discovered
that we were watching and took
its flight over a ridge in a nut
as straight a line as it could make.

Nov-7. Saw two California Condors at one time and three at another time, yesterday while taking stroll up one of the ridges. They might have been the same individuals but there were at least three. They were flying at a considerable height so I could not tell very much about them. They seemed however to cover great distances in making their circles through the air. I also noticed a characteristic habit they have of dipping downward in their flight. It reminds me somewhat of the dipping when in flight of the California Brown Pelican.

Nov-12. Several times of late I have disturbed congregations of Red-shafted Flickers that had gathered in some yard from which the brush had been burned. I do not know the exact cause of these

gatherings as the birds have always taken flight before I could discover their cause.

Tonight I saw a California Jay pick an acorn from its bird. It tugged a second or two at the acorn before it loosened it. This of course with its bill and by pulling its head backwards. It twisted its head to one side in this operation. It flew away with the acorn in its bill.

Was surprised to find the Buzzard Roost was so near to Mr. Harlan's house, it being only 30 or 40 yards distant.

He says that a dozen or so roost there the year through. In the winter time as many as four dozen are common.

Perhaps in the summer most of them are nesting.

Nov-14 Heard today that the Band-

tailed Pigeons do nest here. Also heard that from March on the Vulture seldom venture away from the deep rocky cañons. Evidently they re-ture to nest.

Nov-16. A small bird slightly larger than a Song Sparrow was seen tonight at close range. Its back was of a peculiar shade of dark brown. Its breast was whitish with dark spots. It has a peculiar chirp. Do not know what it is but should say it was related to the Sparrows.

Nov-18. In regard to the bird mentioned on Nov-16. I must retract or rather alter what I wrote at that time. The breast and underparts seem to be of a brownish color and spotted with white instead of vice-versa. The bill

is short conical and of a brownish color varying from light to a darker color. The tail is rather short about two inches, I should judge and truncate in form. The bird is somewhat larger than a Gumbel's Parrot.

Nov. 28. A nomber of Condors and Turkey Vultures have been flying about a dead mule which is lying a little way up the cañon from the camp.

Nov. 29. Observed a noumber of Brewer's Blackbirds alighting upon hogs backs. There only object so far as I can see must be that they wish to devour the ticks on the hogs. These paracites seem to infest all of the animals upon the coast.

Dec. 6. One day while going to school

I saw a small Owl sitting upon the limb of an oak tree near the trail. I approached to within eight or ten feet of the bird without disturbing it. Soon after I threw a rock towards it when it vanished so suddenly that I failed to get a good view of its wings which I had desired to do. I think that the bird is reparable to the Pigmy Owl as it had longitudinal markings on its breast and abdomen.

I saw a most peculiar bird yesterday. It was on a rock near the beach. The bird was quite tame and undoubtedly maratime in habits. It sent forth a strange croak or alarm note.

In size it was somewhat less than a Gull and its color was sooty black only, as far as I could see.

Its feet and legs seemed to be of a pale flesh color, although I could not see them nearly so well as I could the bill which was of a bright red color and of considerable length- much longer than the head I should say.

Also saw at same place three or four individuals of a Sandpiper-like bird. The birds were quite large, of a grayish (seen at some distance) color, and the bill was two and one half inches long I should judge.

Dec-28 Have moved outside and am now at Watsonville.

On the journey here I noticed as follows:-

A short time after we got out of the cañon I saw two or three Calif. Condors at close range. They were exceedingly tame. Perhaps

they had been gorging themselves on a dead mule that lay at the bottom of the canon. One of them remained on a tree while we went past at a distance of thirty or forty yards. From their small size I should say that they were young birds.

One thing that surprised me was the blackness of the naked skin covering their head and neck. At least one Turkey Vulture was in their company.

A little further on we were passed by two Bald Eagles in full flight. I am positive I have correctly identified them as both birds had pure white necks and tails.

Again after we had reached the San Miguelita ranch we noticed two and afterwards three condors flying above us. All three were of

immense size and no doubt adults.

Although I saw an occasional W. Meadowlark while coming up the Salinas Valley, they did not become common until I had reached the vicinity of Chualar. The same is also true of the Crow.

It is strange that I saw so few birds along the road I traveled here in Watsonville I see a great many Night Herons near Tyrrel's Lake where I am working. They come out from the tules into the fields just about sunset.

At Kihn's City I saw an Audubon's Warbler alight on the side of a telegraph pole. I had never before seen them in a similar position.

March-21-1898. About three weeks ago and afterwards I saw a ♂ Audubon's Warbler in full

Watsonville.

spring plumage. The feathers were bright. The yellow area was extensive and he had a broad transverse breast-plate of black.

A pair of Golden Eagles have been seen about a heronry for the past month or two evidently with the intention of nesting in the vicinity. They kept the Great Blue Herons away for some time but afterwards capitulated in favor of the latter who immediately took possession

A good many Steller's Jays (4) have been seen and one was heard today uttering the shrill cry of a W. n. Red-tail. I was positive at first that a hawk was about until I found out the deceit. I was informed today that the Road-runner has been present here only a few years.

Rollard, Minn. Forty-two, Baby.

April-6. Brown Sparrows are more scattered than in fall and winter

April-16. Heard a Steller's (?) Jay's song yesterday that was quite musical. It consisted of low rather indistinct warbles, trills, etc.

May-5. About two weeks ago I saw for the first time a couple of swallow-like birds having long pointed wings and a long tail that may have been White-throated Swifts. Also saw on same date two California Condors. This was in "Fall Canon" or Redwood creek. I think undoubtedly they nest here but it would be a difficult matter to locate their nests.

On the same day I heard any number of "Mountain Quail" deep down in two of the forks of Redwood Canon in the Redwood timber. I was unable however to catch sight of a single bird although I was

down in the bottom of both canyons for a short time.

There call note, I think it must be of "purt", "purt" may be heard a long distance.

Two nests of Steller's(?) Jay have been found. Both were in small young Redwood trees eight or ten feet up and were large structures composed of sticks and roots stuck together with a great quantity of mud and wet material. The eggs are similar to some types of the California Jay. The nests of Steller's Jays seems to be always found in close proximity to mud.

May 17- Some eagles that had been see previously were seen again flying about a nest in a Redwood tree and alighting on it. Both birds were seen carrying large sticks. One bird was seen carrying a stick about eighteen inches long in its bill.

It flew about some time with it.

The other was seen carrying a stick at least three feet long and having quite a curve in it. This was carried at one end with its talon. This bird flew about thus for five or ten minutes.

May-22. Two Baliporia Condors seen circling high in the air. Upon seeing me they flew straight off for a half of a mile or so and commenced circling again.

I saw a Steller's Jay alight on a window-sill and near it and try for half of an hour to get inside by picking. He repeated the performance several hours apart.

The bird may have been attracted by the food which was on a table just inside of the window. It kept up its

harsh saw-filing notes most of the time.

May-31. Two Western Winter Wren seen and one killed.

Read today that Partridges do not pair or in some places in a dry year. I think this is partially exemplified here (Redwood) this year and if report be true, fully so in the Salinas valley.

Heard the song of a California Towhee for the first time to recognize the performer. I have heard it before I think but is not often to be heard. Probably only occasionally during the nesting season.

It can hardly be considered musical but nevertheless it is an attempt at song.

The bird was seated first in a willow and then in a sycamore tree several feet from

the ground and my presence did not apparently disconcert it.

June 12. Band-tailed Pigeons are common are common in large and small bands, also occasionally in pairs, singly or in trios. They are often seen sitting in the top of some solitary or exposed tree or in redwood, laurel or oak trees in deep cañons and other wooded localities.

Saw a large California condor two days ago. It was flying towards me and when about fourty yards away, it turned and flew in another direction and did not come near me again. It was an immense bird had large white tracts under its wings and the skin covering its head was red as in the Turkey Vulture. While flying it circled like

a Hawk and used its wings
in a perceptible manner, more
often than the Turkey Vul-
ture does. It did not appear
frightened at seeing me al-
though it kept a more res-
pectful distance.

A Macgillivray's Warbler
and nest were seen tonight,
the latter with its four eggs
taken. I think there can be
no doubt about the identity
as I looked carefully at the
bird for five minutes.

Its chirp was like that of
the Western Yellow-throat and
at first I thought I had a nest
of that species for it looked
exactly like the ones that
species builds but the eggs
are not so long and are spot-
ted and marked in about the
same manner except that the
markings are reddish-brown
instead of black. The ground
color is more of a creamy-pink

than the porcelain whiteness of the Yellow-throats eggs. They are also shorter.

The bird was a close sitter and when flushed jumped into the bushes and remained quiet for sometime. I sat down and waited for a few minutes and then I noticed her jumping about in the bushes only three or four feet from the nest. Soon afterwards she wheeled her chirp and hopped about in and out among the bushes never over five or six feet from where the nest had been. I removed the nest where she was probably not over three feet from me in the dense wild blackberry vines.

I noted her color etc. during this time and I am sure I have the correct species.

I have seen a bird a few times when going down to the kilns

that resembled this species although I never had a good view of it. Its "chirp" was similar if not exactly the same and I fully believe the bird was this species. These are the only birds I remember of that could be considered this species.

June. 21. A good many wild Pigeons are to be seen in the cañons and hay fields eating grain. Anna's Hummers ♂ and ♀ are to be seen in almost any place, perched upon a dry limb, buzzing about a flower or executing various performances in the air. It will often allow one to approach within four or five feet before they will leave their perch.

Turkey Vultures are to be seen in numbers some days and other days are not to be seen at all. Evidently

this is regulated by the food supply.

At a Later Date. On a trip to the Redwood after my household goods which had been left there.

In the "Three-mile Flat" I noticed a queer thing. The heat was intense and the only birds I saw were Horned Larks of which there was a considerable number.

The Sunset Telephone Companies lines run through here and the small narrow shadows of the telephone poles offered the only chance of escape from the burning rays of the sun, the country for some distace being barren of trees or other natural plant life.

The birds were in single file in this narrow strip of shade and often ten or a doz-

en would be in one shadow. When disturbed they nearly alway flew to the shadow of the next post.

Aug-20. Am now at Jamesburg. The climate is very warm in summer with snow in winter. The altitude is from 600 to 4000 feet higher than the Salinas valley. The timber of the level and lower lands is white oaks. All the hills however are covered with black oak, laurel and other mountain growths. There is also a great deal of chaparal.

A Nuthatch probably the Slender-billed seen today. This is the first time I have ever seen this species alive. It was in ~~the top~~ a white oak tree near the top of one of the little hills near here. It was rather tame and hopped up and down the limbs only a few feet away from me.

At last it flew to a neighboring tree. Its flight was undulatory.

Another new bird is a small sparrow-like bird about the size of a Song Sparrow. Its outer retrices were white or at least heavily mark with that color. A patch including throat and chin was black.

Aug-24. Castorville Large numbers of sea-birds have been seen off the coast flying along in a string two or three or perhaps more miles in length, the birds being very thick in the column. These birds were a mile or two from the shore and a like occurrence has been seen before several times. One time I noticed them, they were flying in a northerly direction, however they may fly southward part of the time. I think they are local birds fishing but they appear to be millions

Not long since I saw and killed a Gairdner's Woodpecker ♀ on a small lupine not two feet from the ground (i.e. 39-a) I have never seen them so near the ground before. It was evidently serching for food, probably bugs. This was on the sandhill and there were no trees for a considerable distance.

Dec-23. While at work in a field a Say's Phoebe came and alighted on a dead weed only a few feet away. It seemed to be fearless. It then flew to the ground in search of insects or grubs. I have never seen these birds on the ground before. It approched to within three or four feet of me.

Dec-30. The Phoebe referred to above is growing exceedingly tame. This afternoon it alighted on the ground within six inches

of my feet, remaining several seconds - keeping me the while. I have heard from others of the habit I have lately discovered of the Ducks and Geese flying out to sea in the daytime if disturbed. It is reported a customary thing. From the top of the sand-hill I saw vast numbers of Gulls, Ducks, etc. resting upon the surface of the ocean. They extended seaward as far as I could see.

I have lately become acquainted with the note of the White-tailed Kite. It is a kind of a whistle uttered generally I think, when it is disturbed.

Jun-6-1899. Some ducks ("Canvas-backs") were seen flying seaward and alighting perhaps one-fourth of a mile from the shore.

Saw a kite drop from its hovering position in the air

upon its prey. I noticed that its wings were not closed but were almost perpendicular to its back so that at any moment its decent might be stopped or its speed lessened.

Jan-8. Sometime ago a Gull was shot that was new to me. It proved to be a Glaucus-winged Gull. It was a young bird of the year.

Jan-15. Sometime ago a Sparrow was shot that was identified as an Intermediate Sparrow. Most of the winter Sparrows I have been calling Ipswich's belong to this species I think. Sea very rough on 10th instant and ducks were forced to come to estuarial waters. A flock of about 300 came and alighted in "marshy lake".

Pelicans also came in from

sea and alighted in "river mouth"

Jan-15. Several Thrashers heard singing today. Two kept singing while I was within twenty feet of them. Several new notes heard from the principal singer. One of very low pitch & a gutteral character.

The song lasted once fifteen seconds but generally five, six, or seven, sometimes nine or ten, frequently only one or two notes. Intervals between strains also irregular and generally of about the same duration as song but sometimes lasted a minute or two. Above note taken at U atsonville

1899. Whalar, Oregon. 1899.

Feb. 9. Found a House Finch roosting in an old house which had part of one window out.

March. 16. Saw a male Brewer's Blackbird pick up a stick and fly off with its mate who was near. They must have commenced nesting.

March. 29 All Brewer's Blackbirds and House Finches seen seem to be in pairs.

May. 8. Sometime since I saw a Crow chase away an Eagle from near the nesting site of the Crows.

Saw a male Brewer's Blackbird feeding its young. Also saw both male and female House Finch feeding young.

The male bird observed quite closely. He seemed to chirp

up the morsel, dividing it into small bits and these were given to the young birds.

I saw a few days ago, a Brewer's Blackbird chase away a crow from its nesting place.

June. 22. A great many Horned Larks seen on road to Gloria. Nearly all were in the shadows of the fence boards and posts.

A dozen or so Turkey Vultures and Crows seen at a slaughter house which is at the edge of the town of Gonzales.

The Vultures were setting on the fences and ridge poles of buildings some having their wings expanded.

Also noticed that the Horned Larks mentioned above had their wings expanded.

June-28 During a ride from Eastroville

to Jamesburg.—
Ball Woodpeckers seemed to become more common as I came from Tularcitos Rancho and went up the Tassajara grade to the Bruce place being most common in the black oaks and other trees found near the summit of the grade.
A great many trees seen in which holes had been dug by these birds in which to store acorns! Altitude at Bruce place is about 4000 feet I think.
Bird life is probably more abundant than it appeared to me. In going up the Tassajara grade from Blomquists place I was greatly reminded of the Vaciemento cañon although the latter is much dryer.
Saw a young W. Meadowlark at Andrew Blomquists place. It was fully fledged but not yet able to fly. Yellow of breast was quite dull.

Also heard song of Wm Martin on Sassafras grade

June-29. Heard note of Wm. Fly catcher at spring on Laurel's grade. It greatly resembles some notes of the Wm. Wood Pewee.
Heard song of Wm. Lark Sparrow near top of Laurels grade. To me it resembled the trilling of a canary bird but it is not so delicate.
Noticed quite critically the twitching motion of the Bluebird's wings when it alights.

July-4. During the past month I have traveled over a considerable part of the northern half of this county and have noticed how very abundant two birds seem. These are the Horned Lark and the Goldfinch.
The Horned Larks seem innumerable in the valleys

I have not seen them in the Carmel country except at the summit of the Laureles grade.

I think I have seen four hundred in a single band. Goldfinches are not seen in such large bands, but they seem to be found in hills and level land alike in companies of from two or three to a dozen or more.

I have noticed before how plentiful these birds are at this season of the year.

August 7. Saratoga, Santa Clara Co.-

Juncos (probably Thurber's) are quite common and very tame, coming about the camp as if no one were around. One came and alighted on the side of my bunk, not two feet from my head.

Castroville.

Sept. 5 Several times of late I have heard the Black Thrasher pouring forth its "cheery chirping" from the top of the barn or from a post. I have often heard this note in winter and spring as the nesting season approached but never to my remembrance at this time of the year. It may be because the spring molt has passed.

I have not heard the Curlew Thrasher's song for some time although two years ago I heard it in the fall. I hear their harsh call or alarm note nearly every day from the pair that live on the sand-hill.

Sept-7. Cheery note of Black Thrasher heard again today. Bird was on board. This note sounds like, to-whit, to-whit. The last word has first the rising and then the falling inflection. This is repeated again and again.

Sept 12. Saw a Great Blue Heron fiercely attack a Hawk and three Turkey Vultures that were flying about a piece of tules that it seemed to be guarding. The Heron showed surprising adgility in the attack which was always from below. It kept uttering its harsh cry almost continually. In most instances the Turkey Vultures showed themselves to be superior in flight. The Heron did not desist until its foes had been driven off. It then settled itself near the tule patch. Perhaps there were some of the poisoned fish there.

Saw a Red-bellied Hawk poise in the air for several seconds. This was repeated several times.

Sept 14 Went over to beach to see the fish that had been killed by the refuse from the sugar factory

being dumpted into the river
Large numbers of Gulls were about.
I think I recognized Herr mann's
among them. Two Gulls shot
which were I think immature
Calif. Gulls. A Least Tern was
also shot.

A great many Great Blue
Herons were there attracted no
doubt by the dead fish.

Turkey Vultures also quit
numerous near fish.

Sept-24. Went over to river mouth
again. Fish nearly gone crept
skins and bones.

A good many birds seen
flying about at sea but no con-
tinuous stream. as is sometimes
seen.

At least one Gull was see de-
vouring remains of fish. Near-
ly all of the Gulls seen were at
"fish pile" and were exceedingly
tame.

A Gull was seen that belong

of the the Herrmann's species
that was I think a young of
the year. It was smaller than
any of the others and was of a
uniform sooty brown or dusky
black color and was marked on
tail wings and upper parts by
cross bars of a light tawny color.
Small Sandpipers seen in
water taking a bath after
the manner of the Breiber's
Blackbird and other birds.
Curlew seen at river mouth
feeding, eighteen were seen.
They fed in the same way as
Blackbirds feed. Those behind
flying up and alighting in
front of the rest.

Sept. 20. Red-bellied Hawk seen during
an attempt to capture a
small bird- a sparrow I think.
It was flying only three or four
feet from the ground when it
paused an instant and then
dropped to the ground but it

failed to get the bird.

Oct-4 Weather has seemed more like winter for last two or three days. Wind from E. in morning.
Blackbirds are in much larger flocks and are more common than here-to-fore. They come around me more when I am at work in the fields.

Oct 5 First appearance of Am. Pipits this season. A dozen in one flock, two in another.
No Swallows seen for a long time.

Oct 9 Several birds commonly called "Jack Snipe" seen. They are the first I have seen closely. I think they are Wilson's Snipe.

Oct 10 An eagle seen near river mouth having reddish subterminal tail markings.

Oct 14 Went over to beach Numerous and other Gulls plentiful.
A thin stream of sta birds flying up the coast quite low to shore and very low.
Two birds brought me, a Teal and a Black-bellied Plover.
The latter a young bird I think. Went to beach in P.M. and shot 2 Red-bellied Sandpipers.
Two "Jack Snipe" shot proved to be Long-billed Dowitchers. Perhaps all of the "Jack Snipe" are Dowitchers.

Oct 20 On beach today saw a large black and white bird that may have been "merganser"

Oct 24 Went over to beach today in A.M. and saw a string of birds flying northward quite close to shore.
In P.M. ni continuous string

Nov. 3. I heard [illegible] seen [illegible]
[illegible] today. The last I have
seen this year. Left them here
two or three days ago. First time
home this year. Left them.

Nov. 11. Conkeron's [illegible] seen today, 1
Red-wing.

Nov. 14. Last of Swans seen flying [illegible]
about fields.

Nov. 27. Large flock of Brewer's Blackbirds
seen. I think (?) should judge these
young birds as their Brothers
marked with large longitudinal
marks. The flocks of young
birds seem to be separate
from the flocks of old birds. (a
few "Red-wings" seen with
the young flock of old Brewer's.

Jan. 19. Gulls - many flying about
fields squabbling boisterously
over their food. This is the 1st
time I have seen them alight

since the flood.

Jan 22. The largest band of Killdeers I ever saw was seen today aimlessly flying about but moving in a general northerly direction. I do not know whether they are residents or migrating birds. There were nearly a thousand of them.

June 19. About a week ago I saw my first band of Horned Larks that appeared to be foreigners. There were about 50. I have frequently noticed that this bird gathers into large bands during the early summer months but I do not know whether they are birds collected from the various scattering pairs that breed here or whether they are migrants.

I saw the young Cliff Swallows that were hatched from the nest on my barn upon the roof

They were being fed by the parent birds.

July 5. Western Meadowlarks are to be seen in the field about here. They are usually quite abundant in winter. They are just begining to come back to this part of the valley.

1900.

Feb 1. A flock of 20 or more Gulls are following my plow at present. They all seem to be adult bird which a single exception of the Ring Bill. The flock is being increased by small drove of a doz or so from the bay. Several Cal. Gulls are noticed among late arrivals. Several Gulls have left having gone to a pool of water standing in the field others are resting on the plowed ground as tho they had satisfied their appetite. Straggling flocks are arriving continually, also

ones, twoss and threes. Now the flock has left with the exception of about a dozen birds. A single bird arrives and hovers about, alighting a few times. Small flocks and the large one pass without stopping. All of the other birds have left. Time of above notes one hour and a little over one hour.

Ordinarily if there is a flock following a plow all birds passing by will stop for a few minutes at least. Otherwise they may or may not. One bird is still resting on the plowed ground. This bird is a Lg. W.n. When disturbed it flew only a short distance flopping its wings several times before it left. Perhaps it is gorged with food.

There are several dead animals in the river bed and I have seen Gulls feeding

upon them several times.
Nearly all were y.g. Wx.
30 minutes later than the above notes 9 Gulls came and are following my plow. The y.g Wx. has joined them. All the late arrivals are ad. Gal.

Think several "Red-wing" noticed among the Blackbirds are "Bicolors" There are at least 100 Blackbirds in the field at the present time.

Late in P.M. about 100 Terns arrived and looked the plowed land over in search of worms.

Mar. 21 01. An immense number of Gulls in field following my plow. There are just thousands of them nearly all Gal. a few of them were what I call y.g. Wx. They settled on the plowed ground facing the wind and litterally made the ground blue and white. When they arose from the

ground in a body. The noise of their wings could be heard for a considerable distance so strikingly different from their silent flight when in smaller flocks.

They remained about a half-hour for the lake in the field.

April 20. At least 6 or 8 Ditlarks in a band in the field. They came about the harrow while I was working. Some were very plumbeous on the back especially on the lower neck and adjacent portion of back. Others were more olivaceous which is the usual coloration while they are with us at least most of the time.

All seem to be quite tawny on the underparts.

April 26. Saw a yg. bird just able to fly a few feet, in the field. From its general resemblance

to the ♀ of the species and from the actions a pair of birds yesterday near the same place I think it must be a Horned Lark.

I think I saw a Least Tern today flying near River. They usually first appear about this time.

I saw about 6 Pipits this P.M. in the field while I was plowing a single furrow, others at different times during the day. Quite a large band of Gulls in the field today at one time, other individuals at different times. Several yg. Ums. noticed. They were in an intermediate plumage that I have never noticed before. Several others seen closely were the Baly species, as no doubt the majority were.

April 28. Many House Finches' nests being built, some containing eggs but the majority

still under process of construction.

Removed a nest from its situation on the water closet (It was placed on a 2x4 that was nailed under and parallel with the eaves, so closely that I could not get my finger into the nest with but sliding the nest out to the end). It contained four eggs and I replaced it several inches nearer the corner. This did not seem to disturb the parent bird who was first noticed sitting upon the eggs today.

Apr-29. Finches nest on water closet contained five eggs today. Bird sitting. Accidentally destroyed two eggs in replacing it.

May-3. Several times today I have seen brown-like birds but (although they were flying high) I could not distinguish

the sickle bill of this species, so they were probably some other kind or kinds for I thought I could distinguish two kinds of birds. Their note resembled Curlew's greatly.

I saw two flocks of 30 or 40 birds (or perhaps the same flock twice) and several times single birds or pairs.

Heard them again this evening after it was too dark to distinguish them.

May 5. A band of Curlew (genuine article) of a dozen or more alighted in my field and allowed three of us to approach within gun shot before flying. The first time they flew a short distance and alighted again and upon being disturbed left the vicinity.

May 8. Several bands of Curlew seen today - one of 14 or 15. I can hear

some flying over as I sit here writing. I have seen 30 or 40 birds today.

May 6. Late this afternoon I discovered a band of 40 or 50 Curlew resting on the plowed ground 200 or 300 yards from me.

They were all facing the wind and were apparently motionless. Ten or fifteen minutes later I looked to find them and I failed to find out how or where.

May 11. About 20 Curlew seen today I think. Some in bands, others in ones, twos, and threes. A flock alighted in the field where I am working. My hallooing at the horses, scared all but three away very quickly. These remained until I was within gunshot and then they left.

May 24-25-26-27. Russet-backed Thrushes

have been heard singing in the willows several times of late. Once I heard it late in the P. M. after it was quite dark.

July-10. Found a nest and yg. of House Finch in my barn today. There are 6 or 7 nests of this Swallow being built there. In one inside and the others under the eaves.

July-30. About a dozen Barn Swallows seen perched upon the tules at an open space of water. They were evidently after flies.

July-31. Barn Swallows seen as before flying about water-hole and perched upon the tules. A Black Phoebe also seen at same place.

Sept-27. Saw a large wader in the field yesterday. It was

smaller than a Curlew and had a straight bill. The coloration was about that of the Curlew as best as I could see.

Sept 30. Say's Phoebe first seen today I think that this individual bird has returned to this place for three consecutive years at least.

Oct-16. Judging from the broadly striped black and white head and rufous belly of a Nuthatch I saw at the hill today, I think the bird I saw was a Canada Nuthatch.

This is the first Nuthatch I have seen in the valley. It was entirely fearless and was almost caught by hand. It was searching the posts and pickets of the fences and the walls of the buildings at the sandhill.

1902. A. D.

Aug-9. Immense numbers of sea-birds flying about a school of fish—came quite close to shore.

1903. A. D.

Jan-31. Two Swallows seen today with long pointed wings, green backs and white under parts.

Feb-6. About 4 P. M., a long straggly string of Crows seen flying from a field (near Frank Josephs) towards the river to what I suppose is their roosting place. Two or three y.g. Wn. Gulls seen feeding upon the remains of a dead salmon left by the flood upon my land near the river bank.

Feb-7. Heard a Baltimore Shrike singing today. I approached within about four feet of it under cover of the shrubbery. I watched it through a small open space. It must have noticed me, as it was looking directly

at me. Its notes were a series of gutteral warbles. Its notes greatly resembled the notes of an Oriole, others were like a Blackbirds, some were like the scolding of a wren and still others were its customary harsh scolding notes.

During the Oriole-like notes. noticed that its throat vibrated up and down but not during the other notes.

I have heard this song before and I think the bird usual, does it from a low situation.

Feb-12. Among the Blackbirds shot the other day were two streaked "red-wings" having the lesser covers dull red, the middle ones black edged with whitish and the greater ones similar with a narrower edging. The primaries were widely edged and the tail-

feathers had a very narrow edging of the same. I think from Cook's rather meager description they are ♀ dicolored.
Length- 7 3/4, Extent- 13.2 inches.

Feb-13. Quite a good many Hawks were seen about edge of water or slough along river and also about drift nearby searching, I think for insects. Nearly every piece of wood or drift that we turned over harbored "water-insects" or a certain species for which I know no name. The birds were after these "bugs" I think.
A very large ♀ Sharp-shinned Hawk in immature very dark plumage - shot at sand-hill today

Mar-28- On road to town today saw two brilliant-colored ducks in Embladero slough near where I have seen a pair for several years. I think they nest here

and that they are Ruddy Ducks.

Mar-31. A ♂ Wn. Yellow-throat was closely observed today in low-brush in sand on overflowed land near river. It was accompanied by a paler colored bird - I think a ♀ of this species but I could not get a good look at the other bird. The chirping notes which both uttered were quite dissimilar.

Apr-2. Went to Monterey and in a curio store saw many local birds that I had not met with or were not well acquainted with, some were as follows:-
Pacific & Red-throated Loon, Horned and Western Grebe - Horned Puffin, Bairds and Brandts Cormorant ♀ & ♂ Merganser, Am. Long-eared Owl - Cal. Poor Will, Cal. W. Wn. Am. Herring, Glaucous-winged Hermanns & Bonapartes Gulls.

Royal & Common Terns - etc - including Shearwaters - Murres Auklets, Murrelets - etc.

I was told that the stream of dark colored birds I have often seen along the coast were Shearwaters - Mr. Clark - the taxidermist also said that he had found 3 kinds of Nuthatches

Apr. 17. Eagle seen today at short range (about 30 yards) seated upon the ground eating a dead jack Rabbit.

Several whitish or light colored areas were noticed especially the scapulars and wing coverts and nearly all of the tail - the terminal portion of the latter being black.

The bird did not appear to me to be much larger than an ordinary Red-tail (except when flying) but doubtless at close range I would have noticed a considerable difference

It stood upon the rabbit and tore morsels of food loose with its bill by pulling or jerking backwards.

Later in the day a Turkey Vulture was noticed feeding from the same rabbit. Mr. Horner was able to approach only within about 50 yards of this bird before it took flight.

Feb. 27. 1904. A large Owl seen a day or two ago perched upon a post near a small slough not far from town. I think it was a Short-eared Owl although I have never seen this species at short range but am confident that it is found here. This owl had a dark stripe just back and at the posterior edge of the operculum. General color brownish with lighter markings on some of the feathers. Was unable to get a distinct idea of the

May-21-1905. Goldfinches - many seen in willows along river - 3 nests - 1 with eggs - 2 with eggs - one incubated and one fresh.

The Blackbirds are eating all of the kernels out of the heads of the barley, that has volunteered on my alfalfa patch, there being no other ripe grain in the vicinity.

May-22-1905 - I discovered today the song of the Yellowthroat and although I have often heard it before did not connect it with this bird.

A ♂ was seen today singing at close range.

1906. A.D.

Jan-21-1906. A Quails has been about the house all day today - flying first from one cover to another as it was disturbed. It was first seen running about the chicken yard with the chickens. This is the first instance I have known of ones being seen about my house

as their usual haunts are at least a mile away, and there is only one band there so far as I know.

1906.
Mar-13. During the past few day I have heard several birds in full "spring song" Wm. Yellow-throat, Jule Wren, Wm. Savanna Sparrow - and Crown Sparrow -

1908.
Mar-21. About two weeks ago I was very much interested in the "antics" of two male (judging from gorget and metallic frontal crest on the head) Anna's Hummers. They have been noticed much of late between the ware-house and my dwelling house

about the eucalyptus trees which are in blossom at present. I was spading my garden in which is growing a small accasia tree when suddly one bird came bussing about the blossoms of the tree and finally alight not over two feet from my hand. Suddenly another bird appeared upon the scean. With a "squack" very similar to that of course with less volume, that of the Black-crowned Night Heron it descended from a height of 100 or perhaps even 200 feet up almost perpendicularly to where the other bird was sitting then executing with only a slight curve at the bottom of its descent a return movement it poised about 15' above the other bird for a few seconds only to rise almost perpendicularly to its dizzy hight to again execute its parachute-like drop again.

A record of birds shot and examined, including all matters which may prove of interest or value.-

Bird
No. 1. Northern Phalarope - Shot Sep. 2 - 1899. at Salinas river mouth. Was feeding and swimming in shallow water - about 100 in band. Not preserved.
Measurements as follows:-
Length - 7.40. Wing - 4.10.
Tail 1.45 Extent - 13.00.
Dg. Culmen - .82. Head. - 92
Tarsus - 81. Mid toe & claw - 82.

No. 2 Northern Phalarope - Shot Sept. 2. 1899 in company with No. 1. Not preserved.
Length - 7.67. Tail - 2.13.
Wing - 4.30. Extent - 13 3/8.
Dg Culm. - .89. Head - .90.
Tarsus. - .84. Mid toe and claw - 88.

No. 3 Black-bellied Plover.
Length - 10. in. Extent - 24.34 in.

Wing- 8. in. Culmen- 1.25 in.
Head- 1.50 " Tarsus- 1.90 in. "
Mid-toe and claw- 1.45 in.
tail- 3.00 in. Tibia bear- .85 in.

No. 4 Least Tern.
Extent- 30.50. in. Cd. of culmen 1.13 in.
Length- 10.75. " Tarsus.- .87 "
Wing.- 10.25 " Mid toe and
Head.- 1.65. " claw. .95 "

No. 5. Brewer's Blackbird.
Extent- 10.45 in. Head .95 in.
Length- 9.25 " Mid. toe and
Wing- 4.60 " claw- 1.00 in
Tarsus- 1.30 " Iris- hazel.
Culmen- .75 " Bill & feet black.

No. 6. Intermediate Sparrow-
Extent.- 8.95 in. Mid. toe and
Length- 6.10 " claw- .80 in.
Wing- 2.85 " Tarsus- 1.00 in.
Tail- 2.80 "
Tk of tail- .20 "
Culmen- .45 "
Gonys- .22 "

Notes taken 1900. C. D.

Oct-22. A cormorant roosted on top of my house last night. It seemed dazed and allowed me to capture it but pecked at my hand while I was doing so.

I fed it some bread and some cooked meat and bone- It swallowed a piece of meat and bone over two inches long; it also picked up grass, clay and a piece of onion skin and other things and ate them with evident relish- It had great difficulty in swallowing the large piece of meat and bone-

Aug-14. Many thousands and perhaps hundreds of thousands of sea-birds were seen off the coast at Moss Landing.

They were evidently following the pathway of an immense school of fish- as there were thousands upon thousands of sardines strewn along the edges of the sloughs about the Landing. I saw also a flock of about a dozen large waders near the Landing- They may have been

four-toed Plover but I was not close enough to distinguish. Also a few large black and white birds that appeared to be Terns but was not close enough to tell.

There has been a Brewer's Blackbird about the house for some time that makes a queer noise every time it takes a breath. Otherwise I do not notice any peculiarity. I do not understand the cause of this noise.

Addresses.

J. Parker Norris, Jr.
723 Walnut St.
Philadelphia.

John Larsen.
1496 W. Madison St.,
Chicago.

W. B. Burrows.
Lacon,
Ill.

Casa Blanca,
Nueces Co. - Texas.

W. E. Snyder,
Beaver Dam,
Wis.

Chas. S. Thompson.
Paso Robles.
Cal.